

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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61

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY DRAFTING: TEXT PROVIDED BY WHITE HOUSE:MR. LOW

APPROVED BY ARA: HARRY W. SHLAUDEMANN

S/CPR: AMBASSADOR ROCKWELL

ARA/NC: MR. DEVINE

ARA/NC/C: MR. MAISTO

S/S:MR. MOFFAT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029079

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL INVITATION TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ

1. THE PRESIDENT WISHES TO INVITE PRESIDENT LOPEZ TO
PAY A STATE VISIT IN 1975. NO DATES FOR EXPLORATION
WITH COLOMBIANS ARE YET AVAILABLE.

2. EMBASSY IS AUTHORIZED TO EXTEND ORALLY ON BEHALF
OF PRESIDENT FORD AN INVITATION TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ
MICHELSEN TO PAY STATE VISIT TO U.S. DURING THE COURSE
OF 1975. IF REACTION IS FAVORABLE AND PRESIDENT LOPEZ
ACCEPTS INVITATION IN PRINCIPLE, YOU SHOULD TELL HIM WE
WILL FOLLOW UP SOON WITH SUGGESTIONS TO COLOMBIANS
ON POSSIBLE TIMING OF THE VISIT AND SEEK TO ESTABLISH
A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATE. YOU SHOULD ALSO INDICATE
TO HIM THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO COORDINATE ANNOUNCEMENT
OF VISIT IN BOTH CAPITALS.

3. FYI: PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT SCHEDULE FOR FIRST
SIX MONTHS OF YEAR IS ALREADY CROWDED. IT IS THEREFORE
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LIKELY VISIT WOULD BE SCHEDULED IN SECOND HALF OF YEAR.

WE ASSUME THAT LOPEZ IS LIKELY TO PREFER A LATER DATE, IN ANY EVENT. SHOULD THERE, HOWEVER, BE STRONG REASON FOR SEEKING EARLIER DATE, YOU MAY WISH TO CONSULT FURTHER WITH WASHINGTON AS TO THE POSSIBILITY.

4. IN VIEW OF SECRETARY'S UPCOMING TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA AND FACT HE IS NOT PLANNING A STOP IN COLOMBIA, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION AND GOC VIEWS WITH REGARD TO TIMING OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISIT, ASSUMING INVITATION IS ACCEPTED. FORMAL INVITATION TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ WILL FOLLOW ONCE INDICATION OF ACCEPTANCE IS RECEIVED.
END FYI. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, INVITATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE029079
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TEXT PROVIDED BY WHITE HOUSE:MR. LOW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750046-0357
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750260/aaaaccj.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL INVITATION TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ
TAGS: PFOR, CO, US, (LOPEZ REGA, JOSE)
To: BOGOTA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006